

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested. The foregoing amendments are responsive to the November 7, 2003 Office Action. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the above amendments and reconsideration of the application in view of the following comments.

Response to the Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 11-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Applicants amend the claims herein to correct any indefiniteness and Applicants respectfully submit that all claims now comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Response to the Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 11-13 and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,893,184 issued to Ishigami. The rejection asserts that Ishigami allegedly teaches each element of the claims. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishigami. The rejection asserts that Ishigami allegedly teaches each element of the claims except for the media being a disk cartridge, which would have allegedly been obvious to one of skill in the art.

The claims are directed toward a stop feature on a surface of the shell with the stop feature being adapted to interface with the stopper to stop the ejecting cartridge at a predetermined ejection travel distance. None of the cited art teaches or suggests this unique feature. Ishigami shows a cartridge with depressions 4 that are used to hold the cartridge into the drive with interfacing with arms 5. This prevents the cartridge from being inadvertently ejected. However, Ishigami never teaches or suggests any type of cartridge or system which limits the distance the cartridge is to be ejected. The claims require the stop feature be adapted to interface with a stopper to control the ejection distance of the cartridge. Only with reading the present application does one even get the idea to limit ejection distance, much less to use the depressions of Ishigami in that manner. Because the present application should not be used as a blueprint in analyzing prior art, that reading of Ishigami is improper.

In view of the foregoing distinctions, Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claim 11 is patentably distinguished over the cited art. Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 11 is in condition for allowance, and Applicant respectfully requests allowance of Claim 11.

Claims 12-15 depend either directly or indirectly from independent Claim 11. Each dependent claim further defines independent Claim 11. In view of the foregoing remarks regarding Claim 11, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 11 are likewise in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request allowance of dependent Claims 12-15.

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
Atty. Docket No. P0698-US

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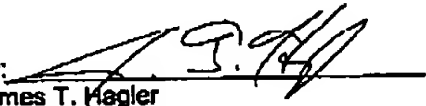
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Summary

In view of the above amendments and remarks, all of the claims should be in condition for allowance. A formal notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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